

Media Release

1.5 million CHF for Best Practice in Education

Dybuster, PEAS and Ubongo receive the prestigious 2020 Klaus J. Jacobs Best Practice Prizes. The Swiss-based Jacobs Foundation honors the outstanding contribution of three organizations in improving learning and advancing child and youth development around the world, and especially their response to COVID-19 related challenges. The three 2020 Klaus J. Jacobs Best Practice Prizes are endowed with 1.5 million Swiss francs.

Zurich, December 3, 2020 – For the first time, the Swiss-based Jacobs Foundation awards three Klaus J. Jacobs Best Practice Prizes in one year. These prestigious prizes recognize the outstanding engagement of: Swiss-based EdTech provider Dybuster; PEAS promoting equality in schools in Uganda and Zambia; Tanzania-based Ubongo providing quality edutainment to children in Africa.

“2020 is the year that saw the largest education disruption in history, at its peak, it forced nearly 1.6 billion students out of their classrooms in more than 190 countries”, says Lavinia Jacobs, President of the Jacobs Foundation. “We honor and support those, who make a difference in education and have demonstrated extraordinary dedication in response to the COVID-19 situation”.

The Jacobs Foundation Board of Trustees recognizes:

Dybuster for their exceptional efforts to promote the learning abilities of dyslexic and dyscalculic children by providing software solutions based on artificial intelligence and neuroscience, and especially for their response to COVID-19 related challenges.

PEAS for their exceptional efforts to drive educational quality through efficient school management and to operate low-cost secondary schools for the most marginalized students in Uganda and Zambia, and especially for their response to COVID-19 related challenges.

Ubongo for their exceptional efforts to provide quality edutainment with localized educational cartoons to children in Africa, and especially for their response to COVID-19 related challenges.

In 2020, in response to the pandemic, the Jacobs Foundation has decided not to host a Prize ceremony. The Foundation believes that the best way to honor the Prize recipients, given the extraordinary circumstances, is to increase the support for their work. Accordingly, the total endowment of the 2020 Klaus J. Jacobs Best Practice Prizes will be at 1.5 million Swiss francs.

The Jacobs Foundation presents the three 2020 Best Practice Prize recipients Dybuster, PEAS and Ubongo via a short film: <https://jacobsfoundation.org/en/awards/>

The Klaus J. Jacobs Awards

In memory of its founder, the entrepreneur Klaus J. Jacobs, who passed away in 2008, the Jacobs Foundation presents two awards for outstanding achievements in research and practice in the field of child and youth development. The Jacobs Foundation attaches great importance to practical application of scientific findings achieved through interdisciplinary research.

The Klaus J. Jacobs Research Prize honors scientific achievements that are of exceptional social relevance in promoting the development of children and youth.

The Klaus J. Jacobs Best Practice Prizes recognizes extraordinary efforts by institutions or individuals to implement, in a practical setting, innovative ideas related to child and youth development.

About the Jacobs Foundation

The Jacobs Foundation is active worldwide in promoting child and youth development and learning. The Foundation was founded in Zurich by entrepreneur Klaus J. Jacobs in 1989. The Jacobs Foundation allocates a budget of 45 million Swiss francs per year to fund research projects, intervention programs and scientific institutions. It is committed to scientific excellence and evidence-based research.

Information for the media

The 2020 Best Practice Prizes film featuring the three recipients is available at: <https://jacobsfoundation.org/en/awards/>

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